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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CIUDAD 00124 211858Z

71
ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 NEA-10 OPR-02 PER-05 A-01 SCS-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /083 W
---------- 071807
R 211812Z DEC 73
FM AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 310
AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L CIUDAD JUAREZ 124

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PINS
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE KIDNAP THREAT

REF: STATE 243811

1. IN RESPONSE PARA 4 REFTEL, FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS TAKEN THIS POST: ALL AMERICAN PERSONNEL HAVE REVIEWED COMMUNICATIONS CITED IN PARA 2 MEXICO 9194; CONSULAR TRAVEL WITHIN DISTRICT DEFERRED; CONSULATE BUILDING GUARDS DIRECTED TO EXERCISE GREATER VIGILENCE OF ENTIRE AREA OCCUPIED BY CONSULATE; TELEPHONE OPERATOR ALERTED AND FULLY BRIEFED ON HANDLING THREATENING OR SUSPICIOUS CALLS.

2. EXCEPT FOR PRINCIPAL OFFICER, WHO COMMITTED TO ATTEND LARGE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES, AMERICAN PERSONNEL THIS POST LIMITING ACTIVITIES DURING HOLIDAY SEASON. FOUR OF AMERICAN STAFF OF EIGHT RESIDE IN U.S. AND A FIFTH STAFF MEMBER SPENDING PART OF HOLIDAYS IN U.S.

3. MAYOR OF JUAREZ HAS IN PAST OFFERED POLICE PROTECTION FOR ANY AMERICAN STAFF THIS POST UPON REQUEST. HE WENT AS FAR AS OFFERING FULLTIME POLICEMAN POSTED OUTSIDE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS RESIDENCE. IN DISCUSSING MATTER OF TERRORIST
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PAGE 02 CIUDAD 00124 211858Z

ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO WITH VICE MAYOR RECENTLY, HE EXPRESSED OPINION THAT POTENTIAL KIDNAPPERS WOULD NOT CHOOSE BORDER

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

AREAS IN WHICH TO OPERATE SINCE THEY WOULD BE EXTREMELY RESTRICTED IN MOVEMENT, I.E., MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS CHECKPOINTS WOULD HAVE TO BE PASSED IN GETAWAY ATTEMPT. DISCOUNTS POSSIBILITY THAT ANY MEMBERS OF TERRORIST GROUP WOULD HOLD HOSTAGE IN CIUDAD JUAREZ. REGARDLESS OF THIS VIEW, ALL POSSIBLE PRECAUTIONS TAKEN BY PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND OTHER AMERICAN STAFF.
SHAPIRO

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EO Systematic Review
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